



IN THIS ISSUE:

[How Are We Doing?](#)

[Current Opportunities](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Recruitment and Retention
Collaborative Team Updates](#)

Virginia Department of Health
Office of Minority Health and Public
Health Policy
109 Governor Street, Suite 1016 E.
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Thank you for subscribing to "PPOVA Updates," a service that provides updates about opportunities posted on Virginia's FREE healthcare recruitment website, [Primary Practice Opportunities of Virginia](#).

How Are We Doing?

We'd love to know how helpful this newsletter is for you. Please take a few moments and [complete our survey](#).

Thanks in advance!

Current Opportunities

For a list of current opportunities in Virginia, please [visit our page on 3RNet](#). We currently have 105 opportunities listed in Virginia.

Upcoming Events

January 25-27

[National Rural Health Association's Policy Institute](#)
Washington, DC

February 4

[Evidence-Based Practice for Telemental Health Webinar](#)

February 7-10

[23rd Annual Rural Health Care Leadership Conference](#)
Phoenix, AZ

[View more events on our calendar](#)

Recruitment and Retention Collaborative Team Updates

2010 Rural Health Summit

Registration is now open for the 2010 Rural Health Summit. A collaborative effort between VRHA and the State Office of Rural Health, the Summit will be held March 16-18 in Danville, VA. The schedule for the event is:

Tuesday, March 16: Rural Workforce Summit

Wednesday, March 17: Annual Rural Health Summit

Thursday, March 18: Telehealth Summit

[Learn more and register today!](#)

Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine to help in Haiti relief efforts

The Blacksburg medical school will send a team of 30 to the Dominican Republic in Haitian relief efforts. [Watch the video.](#)

Virginia's Loan Repayment Program

The application period for the Virginia State Loan Repayment Program has begun. Minimum federal funding is available and the office will be preparing to make awards on a first-come, first-serve basis.

A state-match is required and must be provided by the employer. Employers must be non-profit entities located in a health professional shortage area. For details about applying, please call the office at (804) 864-7435 or [visit our website](#).

There is no funding available to administer the Virginia Physician Loan Repayment Program.

Rural Healthcare Workforce Recognition Awards

The Healthcare Workforce Council of the Virginia State Rural Health Plan introduces a new initiative: the establishment of the Virginia Rural Healthcare Workforce Awards Program.

The Virginia Rural Healthcare Workforce Awards will recognize and thank individuals and/or organizations for making significant contributions to rural communities through education, recruitment and retention initiatives designed to address Virginia's healthcare workforce shortage.

Up to two individuals will receive the "Distinguished Service" awards and up to two organizations will receive the "Outstanding Contribution" awards.

These awards will be presented at the 2010 Health Workforce Summit, scheduled for March 16, 2010. All recipients will be recognized on the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Public Health Policy and Virginia's State Rural Health Plan websites.

[Learn more and submit a nomination.](#)

The VCOM Faculty Recognized for Best Bedside Manner

The Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) is proud to announce that 78 physician faculty members were recognized in Ourhealth Magazine's "Annual Best Bedside Manner Awards for Southwest Virginia." With over 21,000 votes cast, these VCOM physicians were recognized for "best bedside manner" based on three criteria: personal attention, time spent during a patient visit and overall compassion and understanding. Fifty five of the 78 were noted as 1st, 2nd or 3rd place winners and 23 were given Honorable Mentions. Honorable Mentions include those physicians that received 50 or more votes.

[Read more >](#)

Montgomery County students gather goods for VCOM mission trip

Some Blacksburg medical students are trading New Year's celebrations at home for children's smiles in Latin America.

The Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine has a mission trip set for El Salvador, and local elementary school students are making sure they're prepared.

Students at Kipps Elementary School in Blacksburg have been gathering goods for kids they'll never meet.

"I brought in markers, pencils, pens," said Stu Forsman, third grade student.

The school supplies and clothing will be delivered by 28 medical students, doctors and staff from the college. They're making the mission trip, as they have many times before, to

help kids in orphanages.

[Read more >](#)

Applying to the NHSC Loan Repayment Program Just Got Easier!

The new LRP application can be found at:
<https://lrpbcrs.hrsa.gov>.

Links to the new Application Information Bulletin (AIB) and Forms can be found at:
<http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment>.

Funding Available for Health Care Jobs in Needy Communities

\$200 Million in Recovery Act funds are expected to support 3,300 clinicians in health centers, rural health clinics, and other health care facilities that care for the uninsured and underserved people. In exchange for two years service with the National Health Services Corp, clinicians will receive loan repayments of up to \$50,000.

- [National Health Service Corps](#)
- [Number of jobs by State](#)
- [Locate Vacancies](#)
- [Apply for the program](#)

Please contact Kai Turner at the Virginia Department of Health if you have questions (804) 864-7423.

Important Information on the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program New Money available now!!

The Health Resources and Services Administration is now accepting new applications to support loan repayment for bonafide educational debt for primary care medical, dental and certain behavioral/mental health clinicians who want to work at National Health Service Corps (NHSC) sites. In exchange for the loan repayment assistance, clinicians serve for two years with the Corps. The new funds, totaling almost \$200 million, are expected to support about 3,300 clinicians that will serve in health centers, rural health clinics and other health outpatient/ambulatory care sites that care for uninsured and underserved people.

HRSA is encouraging fully trained primary health care clinicians who are dedicated to working with the underserved and have qualifying educational loans to apply for this opportunity. In addition to an initial award of up to \$50,000 for loan repayment, each clinician receives a competitive salary and a chance to have a significant impact on a community. Primary health care clinicians interested in applying for the NHSC loan repayment program should visit:
<http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/apply.htm>.

Visit the Rural Assistance Center

As you [conduct research](#), look for [funding opportunities](#), and keep up with [news and policy items](#) affecting rural America in the coming year, please keep us in mind. As always, all of our services are free, including [customized assistance](#) from our information specialists.

In 2010, we will expand our services and add some exciting features to the RAC web site. Recently, we launched [RAC's Facebook profile](#) - please check us out and become a fan.

Thank you for all that you do to improve health care and human services for rural residents.

